

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 05363 311202Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 NRC-05
CEQ-01 /142 W

-----057224 312353Z /73

R 311113Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6656

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05363

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, ETRD, TECH, ENRG, JA, AS

SUBJECT: ANTHONY VISIT TO JAPAN

1. MAIN PURPOSE OF AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
J. DOUGLAS ANTHONY'S MARCH 14-23 UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO
JAPAN WAS TO CONVEY DESIRE FOR SPECIAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA. SPEAKING TO JAPANESE BUSINESS
MEN MARCH 15, ANTHONY POINTED OUT: (1) AUSTRALIAN IRON
ORE AND COAL COMPANIES HAVE INVESTED \$3-4 BILLION TO MEET
NEEDS OF JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY; (2) 80 PERCENT OF
AUSTRALIAN IRON ORE AND COAL IS SHIPPED TO JAPAN
ANNUALLY; AND (3) JAPAN DRAWS ALMOST 50 PERCENT OF
ITS IRON ORE AND OVER 40 PERCENT OF ITS COAL REQUIREMENTS
FROM AUSTRALIA. AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF SAID THAT WHILE
ANTHONY WAS REALISTIC ENOUGH TO KNOW, GIVEN CURRENT
ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR JAPAN
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 05363 311202Z

TO MAINTAIN ITS IMPORTS AT COMMITTED LEVELS, HE WANTED
TO GET ACROSS POINT THAT IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE IF
AUSTRALIA GOT CUT BACK MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE, AND THAT
THERE WAS GOOD GROUND FOR GETTING CUT BACK LESS.

2. MOFA OCEANIA DIVISION SOURCE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT
IT MIGHT BE UNWISE FOR ANTHONY TO BE OPTIMISTIC. HE

POINTED OUT THAT ONLY COMMITMENT GOVERNMENT MINISTERS
GAVE WAS TO PASS ANTHONY'S MESSAGE TO STEEL INDUSTRY
(ANTHONY PAID COURTESY CALLS ON PM FUKUDA, FONMIN SONODA,
AND MITI MINISTER KOMOTO). STEEL INDUSTRY LEADERS
EXPRESSED THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF AUSTRALIA'S POSITION,
BUT THEY TOO MADE NO CONCRETE COMMITMENTS.

3. ON SCIENCE ISSUES, MOFA SOURCE STATED GOJ HAD ALREADY
RECEIVED MONTHS AGO AUSTRALIAN DRAFT ON NEW AGREEMENT FOR
NUCLEAR COOPERATION. HE SAID THAT UNDER PRESENT CONTRACTS,
AUSTRALIAN URANIUM WILL BE SUPPLIED TO JAPAN UNTIL 1985.
NEW CONTRACTS WOULD START FROM 1986, AND SINCE THEY WERE
USUALLY NEGOTIATED 5-6 YEARS BEFOREHAND, THERE WAS
PLENTY OF TIME TO CONCLUDE A NEW AGREEMENT. DURING
ANTHONY'S CALL ON SONODA, BOTH SIDES AGREED TO SET UP
SCHEDULE FOR AMENDMENT OF BILATERAL NUCLEAR-COOPERATION
AGREEMENT THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
OFFICIAL SHOWED VISIBLE SURPRISE AND PERHAPS CONSTERNATION
WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED CASUALLY THAT GOJ HAD RECEIVED DRAFT
NUCLEAR AGREEMENT SOME TIME AGO. IMPRESSION WAS GIVEN
THAT EITHER HE DID NOT KNOW THIS HAD HAPPENED OR THAT U.S.
WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO KNOW ABOUT IT. MANSFIELD
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PAGE 03 TOKYO 05363 311202Z

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